



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| 09/578,627 | 05/25/2000 | Andrew J. Prokop | NORT-0052-US (12054DMUS01) | 6109 |
| 21906 7590 11/12/2008 TROP PRUNER & HU, PC 1616 S. VOSS ROAD, SUITE 750 HOUSTON, TX 77057-2631 | | | EXAMINER QURESHI, AFSAR M | |
| | | | ART UNIT 2616 | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | MAIL DATE 11/12/2008 | DELIVERY MODE PAPER |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

| | | |
|---|------------------------|---------------------|
| Response to Rule 312 Communication | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
| | 09/578,627 | PROKOP ET AL. |
| | Examiner | Art Unit |
| | AFSAR M. QURESHI | 2416 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

1. ☒ The amendment filed on 06 November 2008 under 37 CFR 1.312 has been considered, and has been:

a) ☒ entered.

b) ☐ entered as directed to matters of form not affecting the scope of the invention.

c) ☐ disapproved because the amendment was filed after the payment of the issue fee.

Any amendment filed after the date the issue fee is paid must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.313(c)(1) and the required fee to withdraw the application from issue.

d) ☐ disapproved. See explanation below.

e) ☐ entered in part. See explanation below.

11/8/2008

/Afsar M Qureshi/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2416